31

Atty. Docket No.: P66538US0

- 1. (Amended) A method for treating a liquid effluent of pig slurry loaded with significant quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus, comprising the steps of:
- a) adding a basic reagent to said liquid effluent of pig slurry containing significant quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus to obtain a pH in the range from 8.5 to 13; and
- b) diffusing the basified liquid effluent derived from stage a) in a stream of air.
- 2. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the basic reagent added to stage a) is unslaked or slaked lime in the form of powder, paste or liquid.
- 3. (Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein a concentration of lime $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ is a maximum of 1,000 g/litre of reagent.
- 4. (Amended) The method according to Claim 3, wherein the stage b) is repeated a number of times for the same basified effluent.

Atty. Docket No.: P66538US0

- 5. (Amended) The method according to Claim 4, wherein the number of repetitions is in the range from 1 to 50.
- 6. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein at a start of stage b) an anti-foam catalyst is added, the quantity of which varies from 0 to $1 \text{ } 1/\text{m}^3$ of liquid effluent which is to be treated.
- 7. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising a stage c) of sifting the liquid effluent derived from stage b).
- 8. (Twice Amended) A device for treating a liquid effluent of pig slurry loaded with significant quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus by adding a basic reagent to said liquid effluent to obtain a pH in the range from 8.5 to 13 an diffusing the basified liquid effluent derived in a stream of air, the device comprising:

a mixing reactor for bringing the liquid effluent of pig slurry loaded with significant quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus into contact with the basic reagent, said mixing

Atty. Docket No.: P66538US0

reactor provided with an intake for said effluent and another intake for the basic reagent;

an ammonia-extracting reactor connected to the mixing reactor; and

a tank for storing the treated liquid effluent derived from the ammonia-extracting reactor.

- 9. (Amended) The device according to Claim 8, wherein the mixing reactor includes a device for measuring the pH of the medium connected to a means situated on the intake for the basic reagent for regulating automatically the added quantity thereof.
- 10. (Amended) The device according to Claim 9, wherein the ammonia-extracting reactor or degassing reactor comprises a lower part collecting in particular the basified liquid effluent and an upper part in which there is situated a diffusion rack provided with nozzles, connected at the lower part to said reactor and including a feed pump, openings being arranged between the two parts to allow exterior air to enter, and an exhaust air fan being connected to said upper part.

31

Atty. Docket No.: P66538US0

- 11. (Amended) The device according to Claim 10, wherein the diffusion rack includes nozzles of the cyclone type.
- 12. (Amended) The device according to Claim 10, wherein the upper part of the degassing reactor is connected to a moisture-reducing unit.
- 13. (Amended) The device according to Claim 12, further comprising a washing tower connected to the moisture-reducing unit allowing the ammonia to be collected or eliminated.